

General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2011

LCO No. 6453

HB0640306453HD0

Offered by:

REP. NARDELLO, 89th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 6403

File No. 486

Cal. No. 285

"AN ACT CONCERNING UTILITY TERMINATION FOR HOUSEHOLDS WITH A CHILD NOT MORE THAN TWENTY-FOUR MONTHS OLD."

- Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the following in lieu thereof:
- "Section 1. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 16-262c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2011*):
 - (b) (1) From November first to May first, inclusive, no electric or electric distribution company, as defined in section 16-1, no electric supplier and no municipal utility furnishing electricity shall terminate, deny or refuse to reinstate residential electric service in hardship cases where the customer lacks the financial resources to pay his or her entire account. From November first to May first, inclusive, no gas company and no municipal utility furnishing gas shall terminate, deny or refuse to reinstate residential gas service in hardship cases where the customer uses such gas for heat and lacks the financial resources to

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pay his or her entire account, except a gas company that, between May second and October thirty-first, terminated gas service to a residential customer who uses gas for heat and who, during the previous period of November first to May first, had gas service maintained because of hardship status, may refuse to reinstate the gas service from November first to May first, inclusive, only if the customer has failed to pay, since the preceding November first, the lesser of: (A) Twenty per cent of the outstanding principal balance owed the gas company as of the date of termination, (B) one hundred dollars, or (C) the minimum payments due under the customer's amortization agreement. Notwithstanding any other provision of the general statutes to the contrary, no electric, electric distribution or gas company, no electric supplier and no municipal utility furnishing electricity or gas shall terminate, deny or refuse to reinstate residential electric or gas service where the customer lacks the financial resources to pay his or her entire account and for which customer or a member of the customer's household the termination, denial of or failure to reinstate such service would create a life-threatening situation. No electric, electric distribution or gas company, no electric supplier and no municipal utility furnishing electricity or gas shall terminate, deny or refuse to reinstate residential electric or gas service where the customer is a hardship case and lacks the financial resources to pay his or her entire account and a child not more than twenty-four months old resides in the customer's household and such child has been admitted to the hospital and received discharge papers on which the attending physician has indicated such service is a necessity for the health and well being of such child.

Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 16-262j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July* 43 1, 2011):

(a) No public service company and no electric supplier shall refuse to provide electric, gas or water service to a residential customer based on the financial inability of such customer to pay a security deposit for such service. No public service company and no electric supplier shall require a security deposit from any residential customer whose

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49 electric, gas or water service was terminated due to nonpayment of a

- 50 delinquent account, as a condition of reinstating such service,
- 51 provided such termination was the first termination of service for
- 52 <u>nonpayment on such account.</u> The Department of Public Utility
- 53 Control shall adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54 to carry
- out the provisions of this subsection."

| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following | | |
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| sections: | | |

| Section 1 | July 1, 2011 | 16-262c(b)(1) |
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| Sec. 2 | July 1, 2011 | 16-262j(a) |